

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the specification, from page 13, line 4 on to line 22,
starting with "The upper magnetic core layer 2...", as follows:

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"The upper magnetic core layer 2, fabricated of a magnetically soft
material such as an Fe-Ni based alloy, includes, on the front end portion
thereof, a narrow-width pole region 3 with its end face serving as the medium
facing surface 16, and on the back portion thereof, a yoke ~~york~~-region 4 in
5 continuity with the back end 3a of the pole region 3. The yoke ~~york~~-region 4
has, on the front end portion thereof, a sloping surface 4a gradually rising from
the back end 3a of the pole region 3 in a formation conformal to the shape of
the second insulator layer 11 therebeneath. The distance from the back end 3a
of the pole region 3 to the medium facing surface 16 defines the length of the
10 pole region 3. Referring to FIGS. 2 and 3, the width of the front end portion of
the pole region 3 defines a track width Tw. Referring to FIG. 3, the yoke ~~york~~
region 4 as the back portion of the upper magnetic core layer 2 widens in the
track width direction (i.e., in the X axis direction) as the yoke ~~york~~-region 4 runs
in the direction of height (represented by an arrow Y)."
